

§Appl. No. 10/676,048
Amdt. dated March 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action of, December 6, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A window sleeve arrangement for positioning a window unit in an opening through a building wall having an exterior surface and an interior surface, wherein the enclosure wall separates an interior space defined by the enclosure from an exterior space, the window unit having a window frame surrounding at least one glass pane; the window sleeve arrangement comprising:

top and bottom walls joined by side walls, the walls each having an inner surface and an outer surface, an inner edge for positioning adjacent to the interior surface of the building wall, and an outer edge for positioning adjacent to an exterior surface of the building wall; the top, bottom and side walls are a continuous extrusion of plastic material having abutting edges positioned at cuts through the extension;

a first exterior flange disposed around the walls of the window sleeve and extending laterally outward from the outer surfaces of the walls at a location intermediate the inner and outer edges of the walls, the first outer flange engaging and being secured to the exterior surface of the building wall to retain the window sleeve within the opening;

a second outer flange located substantially at the outer edges of the walls and spaced from the first outer flange defining a gap there between for receiving sheathing or an outer covering of the building;

an inner flange disposed adjacent to the outer edges of the walls and extending inwardly from the inner surface of the walls, the inner flange forming a stop for engaging the window unit to position the window unit within the sleeve in proximity with the exterior surface of the building wall, and

an inside stop arrangement positioned in spaced relation to the inner flange to define a space therebetween for locating the window unit and for engaging the window to hold the window unit against the inner flange.

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Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 1 wherein the inside stop arrangement includes a molding strip constructed and arranged for engaging the window frame and wherein the inner inside stop arrangement comprises a groove includes grooves in the inner walls for receiving latching ribs projecting from a the molding strip to hold the molding strip in place ~~the molding strip being constructed and arranged for engaging the window frame.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 1 wherein the inside stop arrangement includes a molding strip for engaging the window unit, the molding strip having a connection for fastening the molding strip to the inner stop arrangement ~~comprises a coupling at the inner edges of the walls for coupling with a molding strip which engages the window unit.~~

Claim 4 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 3 wherein the molding strip is fastened in place by separate fasteners, the separate fasteners being nails, screws, studs or staples.

Claim 5 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 1 wherein the first outer flange has a series of perforations for receiving fasteners therethrough.

Claim 6 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 5 wherein the fasteners are nails, screws, studs or staples.

Claim 7 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 1 wherein the inner surfaces of the walls extending from the inner edge to the inner flange are planar and unobstructed and wherein the shape and size of the space defined by the inner surfaces of the walls complements the shape and size of the window unit.

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Claim 8 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 7 wherein the outer surfaces of the walls extending from the inner edge to the first outer flange are unobstructed complementing the opening through the enclosure wall.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 9 1 wherein the plastic material is polyvinylchloride, polyurethane, polypropylene or ABS.

Claim 11 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 1 wherein the outer surfaces of the walls extending from the inner edge to the first outer flange are unobstructed complementing the opening through the enclosure wall.

Claim 12 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 11 wherein the inner surfaces of the walls extending from the inner edge to the inner flange are planar and unobstructed and wherein the shape and size of the space defined by the inner surfaces of the walls complements the shape and size of the window unit.

Claim 13 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 12 wherein the first outer flange is configured for receiving fasteners therethrough.

Claim 14 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 13 wherein the fasteners are nails, screws, studs or staples.

Claim 15 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 14 wherein the window sleeve arrangement is molded of plastic material.

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Claim 16 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 15 wherein the plastic material is polyvinylchloride, polyurethane or ABS.

Claim 17 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 1 wherein the sleeve arrangement further includes interior molding adapted to cover a portion of the interior surface of the building wall.

Claim 18 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 17 wherein the interior molding is attached to the window sleeve by a snap-in coupling.

Claim 19 (Original) The window sleeve assembly of claim 18 wherein the snap-in coupling comprises grooves in the outer edges of the walls and resilient latching ribs on the molding which are received in the grooves.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 20 wherein the cuts are triangular and the abutting edges extend at 45° with respect to the longitudinal extent of the walls.

Claim 22 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 21 wherein the cuts do not extend completely through the walls and terminate at apices of the cuts, wherein hinges occur at three of the apices and wherein the window sleeve arrangement is formed upon folding the continuous extrusion at the apices and joining the edges with bonds, adhesives or mechanical fasteners.

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Claim 23 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 21 wherein the walls are completely severed at the abutting edges and joined by bonds, adhesive or mechanical fasteners.

Claim 24 (Original) The window sleeve arrangement of claim 17 wherein the interior molding is pivoted on the walls at the inner edges thereof.

Claim 25 (Original) The window sleeve of claims 24 wherein the interior moldings are coextruded with the walls of the window sleeve arrangement.